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RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL JAKARTA 002476

STPDTS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/11/2014 TAGS: <u>PREL PGOV PTER ID IZ</u>

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR AL-ASKARIYA

SHRINE BOMBING

REF: STATE 28802

Classified By: Political Officer John Rath. Reason: 1.4 (D).

(C) We conveyed and discussed reftel points February 23 with Wahib, Indonesian Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Deputy Director for Middle Eastern Affairs. We emphasized that POTUS, UNSYG Annan, and governments had condemned the attack on the Al-Askariya shrine, and urged the GOI to follow this lead. Wahib replied that the GOI condemns all acts of terror, regardless of location or justification, and that the bombing of a sacred Islamic shrine was particularly hurtful to Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim-majority nation. He said he was unaware of any GOI plans to issue a public condemnation of the attack, but said he would raise the issue with the DFA public affairs office. We will report any forthcoming GOI statements on the Al-Askariya issue. PASCOE